

prisoners whereof we hopped to have had our choice : hut the Negro (in which nation is seldom or never found the truth) meant nothing less. For that night, he removed his camp and prisoners : so that we were fain to be content with those few, which we had got ourselves.

1T Now had we obtained between 400 and 500 Negrose^ wherewith we thought it somewhat reasonable to seek the coast of the West Indians; and there for our Negrose and our other merchandise, we hoped to obtain whereof to countervail our charges, with some gains.

Whereunto we proceeded with all diligence, furnished our watering, took fuel, and departed the coast of Guinea, the 3rd of February, continuing at the sea, with a passage more hard than before hath been accustomed, till the 27th day of March, on, which day, we had sight of an island called Dominica, upon the coast of the West Indies,, in 14° N\*

From thence, we coasted from place to place, making our traffic with the Spaniards as we might; somewhat hardly, because the King had straitly commanded all his Governor^ in those parts, by no means, to suffer any trade to be made with tls.

Notwithstanding, we had reasonable trade and courteous entertainment, from the isle of Margarita, unto Cartagena, without anything greatly worth the noting: saving at Cape de la Vela, in a town called Rio cle la Hacha (from whence come all the pearls), the Treasurer (*Captain JOHN LOVELL with young FRANCIS, DRAKE (then on his Jirst visit to West Indies, had thought themselves wronged here, in 1565-66 (see j&. 494-) See also the prcvitots armed occupation of the town in 1565, at p. 144)*) who had charge there, would, by no means, agree to any trade, of suffer us to take water\* He had fortified his town with divers Bulwarks [*forts*] in all places where it might be entered; and furnished 'himself with a hundred harquebussiers: so that he thought to have enforced us by famin,e [*including thirst*], to have put a land our Negrose, Of which purpose, he had not greatly failed, unless we had by force entered the town: which (after we could by no means obtain his favour) we, were enforced to do. And so, with 200 men, brake in upon their Bulwarks, and entered the town; with the loss of only two men of our part;